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Mystery  
ADVENTURE**

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 1942

# The Spirit



In the month of March, 1642, there put out of the harbor of Cadiz a bold adventurer, one El Lobo Nevarro ... He sailed due west, and was sighted not long afterward off the Virgin Islands. .... That was the last seen of El Lobo-- "the Wolf"----- Back in Spain his family, refusing to believe him dead, sought for a clue to his fate. .... a search which lasted for three centuries -----until the recent civil war in Spain wiped out the last Nevarro, ending the three hundred year quest -----

RECENTLY, THERE OCCURRED IN CENTRAL CITY AN EPISODE WHICH IN MY FILE IS LABELED "THE MEN WHOM TIME FORGOT"----- HERE IS PERHAPS THE ANSWER SO LONG SOUGHT BY THE VANISHED HOUSE OF NEVARRO ----

BY

Will Eisner



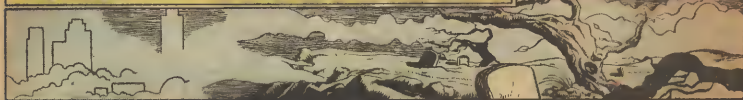




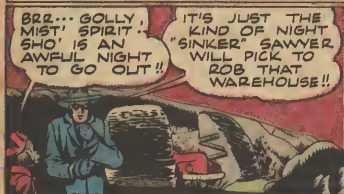
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300 YEARS LATER... CENTRAL CITY... A HEAVY FOG ROLLS ACROSS WILDWOOD CEMETERY, HIDING THE DISTANT SKYSCRAPERS AND MAKING THE ENTRANCE TO THE HARBOR LOOK LIKE THE END OF THE EARTH....

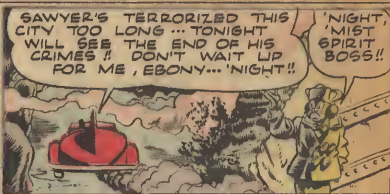


ANOTHER ADVENTURER... THE SPIRIT, BY NAME... SETS OUT, ADVENTURE BOUND...



BRE... GOLLY, 'MIST' SPIRIT... SHO' IS AN AWFUL NIGHT TO GO OUT!!

IT'S JUST THE KIND OF NIGHT "SINKER" SAWYER WILL PICK TO ROB THAT WAREHOUSE!!



SAWYER'S TERRORIZED THIS CITY TOO LONG... TONIGHT WILL SEE THE END OF HIS CRIMES!! DON'T WAIT UP FOR ME, EBONY... 'NIGHT!!

'NIGHT, 'MIST SPIRIT BOSS!!

AT THAT SAME MOMENT AT THE MOUTH OF THE CENTRAL RIVER, A DIMLY OUTLINED SHIP GLIDES SILENTLY PAST THE BUOYS....



...PAST FREIGHTERS AND LINERS... THROUGH THE HARBOR AND UP TO "PIRATE POINT"; WHERE WILDWOOD ROAD SKIRTS THE SHORE....



...FOR A MOMENT, THE MIST BREAKS... AND ON THE DECK OF THE STRANGE CRAFT A MAN BARKS AN ORDER....



ARE ANY OF YOU MEN FAMILIAR WITH THIS LAND?

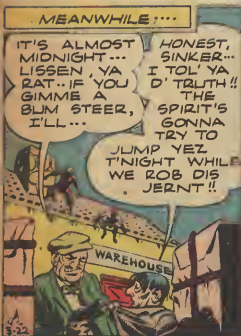
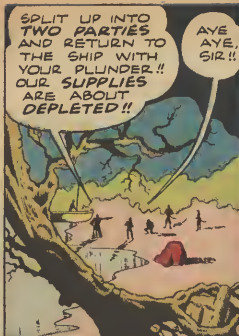
NO!

NO!

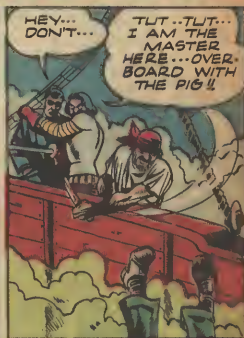
NO!

THEN...I... DON EL LOBO NEVARRO...CLAIM THESE LANDS AS MINE... BY RIGHT OF DISCOVERY!!

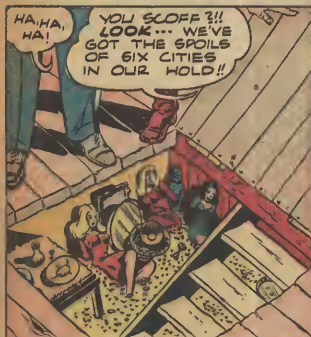




BACK ON THE SHIP...







ABOVE DECKS, THE GANGSTERS MEET THE FURY OF THE SPANISH PIRATES ....



HEY, BOSS... DEY DON'T DROP!!



KEEP SHOOTIN!! DEY GOTTA DROP!



BELOW...

DO NOT TRY TO ESCAPE, SIRE... TELL US...WHAT IS THE NEWS FROM ENGLAND? DOOTH CHARLES THE TYRANT STILL RULE? WE'VE BEEN HERE FOR TWO YEARS!!

ARE YOU KIDDING?



COME ON, YOU MEN, TO LIBERTY!



WITH RENEWED ENERGY, THE SLAVES SWARM ONTO THE DECK!!



HA... THE SLAVES ARE LOOSE... GET RID OF THE PIGS IN THE BOAT... NOW...



SINKER... JUMP!! JUMP!!

I... I CAN'T! I-I'M WOUNDED!!



MEANWHILE....

GOT TO GET TO THAT CABIN ... AH... THIS MUST BE IT!!

THE LOG....  
THE SHIP'S  
LOG... AH...  
HERE WE...  
**GOOD!**  
**GRAVY!!**

SO  
HERE  
YOU  
ARE...

DO YOU  
KNOW WHAT  
DATE  
THIS IS?

WHY...  
LET ME  
SEE...WE  
LEFT CADIZ  
IN 1642...  
REACHED THE  
FOG BANK IN  
'43... I CAL-  
CULATE WE'VE  
BEEN BECALMED  
IN THIS HORRIBLE  
FOG FOR ABOUT  
A YEAR!!

YOU'VE BEEN  
SAILING FOR  
300 YEARS!!  
THIS IS  
1942!!

WHAT!?!  
YOU  
ARE  
MAD!!  
IMPOSSIBLE!!  
IT IS UNNATURAL!  
MORTAL MAN  
DOES NOT LIVE  
THAT LONG!!

YOU ARE DEAD!  
MY FRIEND!!  
LOOK!! LOOK  
AT THOSE  
BULLET  
HOLES IN  
YOUR ARMOR...  
THEY PASSED  
RIGHT THROUGH  
YOU!!

FOR  
LOS  
CIELOS!!  
YOU  
ARE  
CORRECT!!

FOR END-  
LESS  
MINUTES  
BOTH MEN  
SIT IN DEEP  
SILENCE...  
ON DECK  
CAN BE  
HEARD  
THE CLASH  
OF SWORDS...

THEN AT  
LAST...

THERE  
IS ONLY  
ONE  
THING  
TO DO!!

I GIVE YOU  
TIME TO JUMP  
OVERBOARD ...  
TOO BAD I  
CANNOT STAY  
TO SEE WHAT  
HAS HAPPENED  
TO THIS WORLD  
SINCE 1642...  
BUT I HAVE NO  
OTHER COURSE!!

I...  
I UNDER-  
STAND!

A FEW  
SECONDS  
LATER,  
THE SPIRIT'S  
LITHE FORM  
CUTS THE  
FOG AND  
SLIDES  
INTO THE  
RIVER...

ON THE SHIP...

I THINK IT  
BEST NOT  
TO EXPLAIN!  
MY MEN  
WOULD  
NEVER  
UNDERSTAND!!

... AND AS DAWN  
COMES UP THE  
GALLEON OF EL LOBO  
NEVARRO SINKS  
SLOWLY FROM SIGHT...



## MORNING--DOLAN'S OFFICE--

.. BOY--OH--BOY!  
YOU'VE COME  
THROUGH WITH  
SOME WEIRD  
ONES IN THE  
PAST... BUT,  
SPIRIT, THIS  
YARN SURE  
TAKES THE  
CAKE!!

OH,  
WELL,  
I DIDN'T  
EXPECT  
YOU  
TO  
BELIEVE  
IT ANY-  
HOW...  
MAKE  
BELIEVE I  
NEVER SAID  
A THING... SO  
LONG!!

HA, HA...  
THE MEN  
WHOM TIME  
FORGOT...  
HA, HA  
HA, HA!

OH, COM-  
MISSIONER,  
HERE'S A  
BULLETIN  
FROM  
THE  
HARBOR  
PATROL!

TEE-HEE-CHUCKLE CHUCKLE!!  
"THE REMAINS OF A  
MOTORBOAT, THE BODIES  
OF SINKER SAWYER AND  
HIS GANG WERE JUST  
PICKED UP OFF  
PIRATE'S POINT...."  
GOOD  
GRAVY!!

HELLO?  
SALVAGE  
DEPARTMENT?  
THIS IS  
DOLAN...  
LOOK...I  
WANT YOU  
TO SEND  
A DIVER  
DOWN TO  
DRAG THE  
BOTTOM  
OF CENT-  
RAL RIVER  
AT PIRATE'S  
POINT!!

Re\*\*!!\*\*x!

## 4 HOURS LATER----

IT'S ABOUT  
TIME...IS  
THIS ALL  
YOU FOUND?

YES, SIR!!  
AND THIS  
BREAST  
PLATE  
WITH  
THE

BULLET HOLES!  
BY GOLLY...I'VE  
BEEN OVER  
THAT RIVER  
BOTTOM FOUR  
TIMES... COULD  
HAVE SWORN  
THIS STUFF  
WASN'T THERE  
BEFORE!!

## 6 HOURS LATER---

...I SAID  
THAT THESE  
RELICS ARE  
ABOUT 300  
YEARS OLD!  
DOLAN... DID  
YOU HEAR  
ME?

COME, DR.  
SEBAS-  
TIAN...I  
THINK  
WE ARE  
NOT  
WANTED!

.. AND LATE  
THAT NIGHT  
IN WILDWOOD..

...AND AT  
THE BOTTOM  
OF CENTRAL  
RIVER,  
THERE  
LIES THE  
EVIDENCE  
OF THE  
MEN WHOM  
TIME...  
OH, PHOOey!!

I'M WASTING  
MY TIME...NOT  
EVEN WILL  
EISNER  
WOULD  
BELIEVE  
THIS  
STORY!!

TURN OUT THE  
LIGHTS, EBONY!  
I'M GOING TO  
BED!!



A caricature of a man with a large nose, wide eyes, and a mustache, wearing a green cap and a dark jacket. He is holding a small, round object in his mouth.

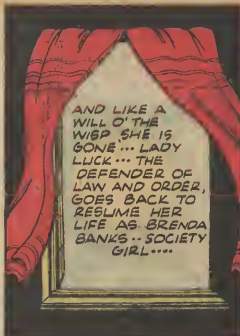
YES...  
IMPERSON-  
ATION  
SHOULD BE  
EASY!!

PERFECT,  
LIZARD!!  
A PERFECT  
BLIND FOR  
SABOTAGE!!

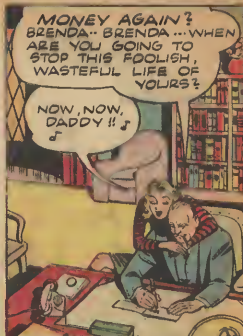




TWO CAN PLAY AT THIS GAME! BRENDA BANKS WILL TAKE PERSONAL CHARGE !!



AND LIKE A WILL O' THE WISP, SHE IS GONE... LADY LUCK... THE DEFENDER OF LAW AND ORDER, GOES BACK TO RESUME HER LIFE AS BRENDA BANKS-- SOCIETY GIRL....



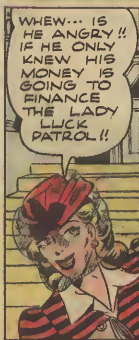
MONEY AGAIN? BRENDA... BRENDA... WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO STOP THIS FOOLISH, WASTEFUL LIFE OF YOURS?

NOW, NOW, DADDY !!



TA, TA, DADDY... YOU'RE A DEAR !!

OH, IF YOU WERE ONLY MORE LIKE... LIKE... LADY LUCK FOR INSTANCE !!



WHEN... IS HE ANGRY !! IF HE ONLY KNEW HIS MONEY IS GOING TO FINANCE THE LADY LUCK PATROL !!



SOCIETY GOES AGOG, AS NEWS OF BRENDA'S PROJECT SPREADS....

HOW THRILLING! THINK OF THE DAHLING UNIFORMS !!

AND LADY LUCK IS GOING TO BE OUR LEADER !!



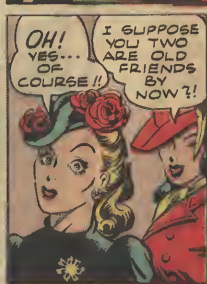
DEAR, NO!! I WOULDN'T DREAM OF A UNIFORM LIKE GLORIA'S !! I WANT PLATINUM BRAID ON MINE !!



LATER... LADY LUCK FACES HER BATTLE LION AS THE FALSE BRENDA BANKS APPEARS....

WH...? WHO...? YOU'VE ALREADY ORGANIZED?

YES... THAT WAS A STROKE OF GENIUS, BRINGING LADY LUCK IN ON THIS, BRENDA !!



OH! YES... OF COURSE !!

I SUPPOSE YOU TWO ARE OLD FRIENDS BY NOW ?!



INDEED... I THINK I KNOW BRENDA BETTER THAN ANYONE !!

I HAVE A **SPLENDID** IDEA FOR OUR FIRST TASK !! LET'S GIVE A COFFEE PARTY FOR THE GUARDS AT THE RESERVOIR !!

OH--  
OH...

SOON THE RESERVOIR IS THE CENTER OF BUSTLING FEMININITY...

WASN'T THIS A SIMPLY SNAZZY IDEA?

MY DEAR... I FEEL SO **UTTERLY** USEFUL!! I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO BRENDA?



**HOLY THUNDER!!** -- QUICK BOYS!! THOSE WAREHOUSES ARE FILLED WITH GUN-COTTON !! IF WATER REACHES THEM THEY'LL BE RUINED!!

GOLLY...ANOTHER ONE SHE WORKED FASTER THAN I THOUGHT SHE WOULD !!

WH... WHAT'S HAPPENED?

OH, BRENDA, DAHLING, WHAT'LL WE DO?

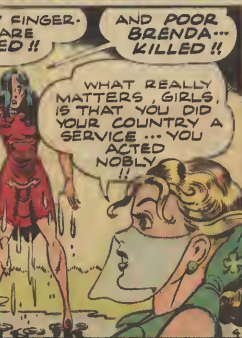
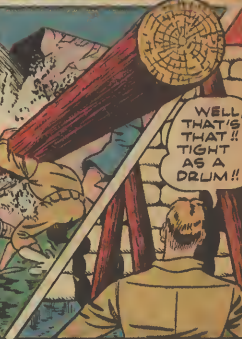
DON'T STAND THERE GAPING ... NOW'S YOUR CHANCE TO DO SOMETHING IMPORTANT !! SNAP INTO IT!!

WHERE ARE YOU GOING, BRENDA? LOOKS LIKE AN INCENDIARY BOMB TO ME !!

MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!!!







Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.  
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MR. MYSTIC, AN AMERICAN ENDOWED WITH GREAT POWERS OF MAGIC, TEMPORARILY ENCAMPS IN AN OASIS WITH A POWERFUL ARABIAN SHEIKH...

SR. POWELL

LOOK AT HER!! ALL DAY LONG SHE MOPES! SHE THINKS IT WAS HER FAULT HER FIANCE' WAS KILLED!!



YOU'VE GOT TO SNAP HER OUT OF IT!!

ME? I'M A MAGICIAN... NOT A DOROTHY DIX!!



MIST' MYSTIC... TELL ME A THRTORY... WILL YA, HUH? PLEATH!!



ALL RIGHT, BARÜK... I'LL TELL YOU THE STORY OF A SLAVE GIRL WHO CAUSED THE DEATH OF HER LOVER, AND THOUGH SHE WAS HEART BROKEN, BECAME A GREAT WOMAN!!



IT HAPPENED MANY CENTURIES AGO, IN PERSIA... WHERE TWO BROTHERS LIVED...



ONE WAS ORMUZO... WHO WAS POOR, BUT GOOD AND KIND...



THE OTHER WAS AHRIMAN... WHO WAS RICH... AND AS EVIL AND CRUEL AS HIS BROTHER WAS GOOD...



HEAR YE... HEAR YE THE SLAVE MART OPENS!! BEHOLD THE TREASURE I SELL!!











AS AHRIMAN SWINGS,  
ORMUZO TURNS INTO  
A FLAME...



IN A FLASH HE WHIRLS  
AND CONSUMES HIS EVIL  
BROTHER....



ORMUZO! ORMUZO! MY LOVE!  
I HAVE CAUSED THY DEATH!  
CONSUME ME IN THY  
FIRE!!



NAY!! I AM NOT  
DEAD!! I SHALL  
LIVE FOREVER...  
AND YOU MUST  
LIVE TO KEEP MY  
FLAME GOING!!  
MOURN ME NOT  
BUT CHERISH MY  
MEMORY!!



SO THE SLAVE GIRL  
TOOK THE HOLY  
FLAME TO A  
MOUNTAIN TOP  
AND PEOPLE CAME  
FROM MILES  
AROUND TO  
WORSHIP  
IT!!



UNTIL HER  
DEATH, THE  
SLAVE GIRL  
KEPT THE  
FLAME, BUT  
NOT ONCE  
WAS SHE  
SAD!!



THAT FLAME BE-  
CAME THE SYM-  
BOL FOR THE  
PARSEES... A  
RELIGION THAT  
STILL LIVES TO-  
DAY!! YOU  
SHOULD FOLLOW  
HER EXAMPLE,  
KAREN!!



PERHAPS YOU  
ARE RIGHT, MR.  
MYSTIC... I HAVE  
BEEN A FOOL...  
I'LL BE ALL  
RIGHT NOW!!  
THANK YOU!!



MUSH!

WHEW! YOU SURE  
DID EXAGGERATE  
THE STORY  
OF ORMUZO  
IT WORKED, AND AHRIMAN!!  
DIDN'T MAN!!  
IT? SHE'S HAPPY  
AGAIN!



THAT'S WHAT I CANT  
UNDERSTAND!! ...YOU SEE,  
KAREN IS QUITE A  
HISTORIAN, AND KNOWS  
YOUR STORY WASN'T  
TRUE... AND STILL SHE  
BELIEVED IT!! MAYBE  
SHE'S FALLEN IN LOVE  
WITH YOU!!



# DECEES

